

Advisory Council on Aging and Disability Services

Creating choices for elders and adults with disabilities in Seattle-King County

Mailing Address: PO Box 34125, Seattle, WA 98124-4215

Office Address: Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 5th Ave, 51st Floor

Tel: 206-684-0660 TTY: 206-684-0274 FAX: 206-684-0689

www.adsadvisorycouncil.org

MONTHLY MEETING AUGUST 11, 2006

MEMBERS PRESENT

CITY OF SEATTLE	KING COUNTY	UNITED WAY
<input type="checkbox"/> Thelma Coney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisa Yeager	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Midge Levy, Secretary
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joanne Brekke-Selk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Larry Verhei	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lorna Stone
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adam John	<input type="checkbox"/> John Holecek	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thelma Pegues, Member-At-Large
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alexandra Tu	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Barnett	<input type="checkbox"/> Timmie Faghin
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Rasmussen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ann Dennis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Don Moreland, Chair
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Larry Low	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rose Finnegan	<input type="checkbox"/> Phil Pitruzzello
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Houston Brown, Vice-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art Mussman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Miller
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Robert Gross	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kate Slaminko	<input type="checkbox"/> Audrey Jernigan
<input type="checkbox"/> Candace Inagi	<input type="checkbox"/> Cathy	<input type="checkbox"/> Amy Astle-Raaen

Excused Absence Amy Astle-Raaen, Audrey Jernigan, Candace Inagi, Phil Pitruzzello, John Holecek, Thelma Coney, Cathy VonWold, Timmie Faghin

Guests M. Lee Harned

ADS Staff Pamela Piering, Rosemary Cunningham, Karen Winston, Marcy Kubbs, Margaret Casey, Andrea Yip, Doug Ricker

United Way Staff Linda Woodall

King County Staff Linda Wells

MINUTES

Don Moreland, Chair convened the Advisory Council (AC) meeting at 12:00 p.m. and invited those attending to introduce themselves. Don then introduced Bob Drewel, Executive Director and Jennifer Ryan, Transit Planner at the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC).

In association with the Area Agency on Aging for Seattle-King County and sponsored by:



PROGRAM : PUGET SOUND REGIONAL COUNCIL

Bob provided background on the PSRC an organization whose scope includes:

- Planning for regional growth, economic prosperity and transportation services
- Distributing funds to priority transportation projects
- Developing regional data and forecasts
- Providing a forum for regional issues
- Participating in Prosperity Partnership coalition

PSRC's planning document Vision 2020 includes a regional transportation strategy focusing growth in population centers and linking them with an efficient multimodal transportation system. The overriding planning issue is how to accommodate 1.6 million more people and 1.1 million more jobs by 2040. Their Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) analyzed four potential growth alternatives for the future including:

- Growth Targets Extended –Patterns of 2025 growth targets are continued
- Metropolitan Cities - more focused growth in major cities
- Larger Cities – focuses growth in suburban cities
- Smaller Cities – shows impacts of more dispersed development pattern

Bob Drewel indicated that each of the alternatives present complex tradeoffs and some mitigation will be required. Key issues will include housing affordability & transportation access to jobs. Key elements of the alternatives are provided below.

1) Metropolitan Cities & Larger Cities Alternatives

- Lower overall impacts on natural resources, plants & animals
- Impacts on people and/or services more concentrated. Cost increases borne by fewer jurisdictions.

2) Growth Targets & Smaller Cities Alternatives

- Higher overall impacts on natural resources, plants & animals
- Impacts on people and/or services more widespread. Overall costs potentially higher, more widely distributed.

The Prosperity Partnership Regional Economic Strategy is a coalition of 200 regional business, government, labor and community organizations working to improve the foundations of the regional economy. Some areas of focus for the coalition are tax structure, higher education, social capital, transportation and technology transfer.

The Growth Management Act (GMA) requires local jurisdictions to pay attention to the effects of land use on physical activity and the availability of bicycle and pedestrian options in their comprehensive plans. As a result, PSRC as part of their planning activities studied health, including physical activity and will include information on this in their plan update. PSRC may also require a bike/pedestrian element in the comprehensive plans they review, raising bike/pedestrian safety as part of transportation safety, and incorporating health into new policies.

PSRC's transportation plan "*Destination 2030*" incorporates the following:

- State highways, HOV, ferries, rail, freight
- Regional highways, transit, aviation, freight
- Local streets, roads and transit
- Bicycle and Pedestrian facilities
- Operations and system management
- Travel demand strategies

PSRC has \$502.4 million available for transportation projects for the period 2008-2010 that they will distribute to Priority Destination 2030 Projects. Half of the funds are distributed in a regional competition and the remainder distributed to local priorities with same policy goals. Examples this year include: University and Airport Link, Bus Rapid Transit in King and Snohomish Counties, Ferry and Bus Fleet replacement and expansion.

In 2005, one of the changes in transportation enacted by Congress was the requirement for a *Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Plan*. This plan forms the basis for projects using three sources of federal funding: Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC), Elderly and Handicapped, and the New Freedom Program. The plan must be regionally adopted by July 2007. Jennifer Ryan, Transit Planner at PSRC explained the details.

- Congress has directed the Secretaries of the Departments of Transportation (U.S. DOT) and Health and Human Services (U.S. DHHS) to work together to develop guidelines for state and local planning agencies to achieve transportation coordination.
- Federal government funds public transportation through 62 separate programs, including many Human Services (Medicaid, Veterans Affairs, etc.)
- Requirement of new 2005 Transportation Bill for Coordinated Planning

Populations with Special Transportation Needs

RCW 47.06B.012 defines populations with special transportation needs as, "Persons who because of physical or mental disability, income status, or age are unable to transport themselves or purchase appropriate transportation." The primary populations who meet that definition include:

- Elderly
- Children
- Low-income
- People with disabilities

Transportation Costs

2005 Transportation Expenditures in Central Puget Sound was \$900 Million which was distributed in the following manner:

Fixed Route	67%
Public Schools	19%
ADA Transport	8%
Medicaid	4%
Other Human Services (est.)	2%

The cost per trip for these different types of transportations varies greatly with “Demand Response” or ADA transportation being the most expensive.

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|-------------------------------|----------------|
| • School | \$1.6 per trip |
| • Fixed Route Transit/Vanpool | \$4 per trip |
| • Demand Response | \$25 per trip |

Coordination

Jennifer reports coordination needs to occur among the following groups:

- Public transit agencies
- Over 200 human and social service agencies,
- 55 local school districts,
- Senior centers, churches, nursing homes
- Medicaid-related transportation
- Taxis and cabulances

Different Perspectives on Special Needs Transportation Services

Two basic perspectives are commonly seen when planning for special needs transportation.

Rider Perspective – *Human Services*

- Not enough service
- Duplicative and confusing eligibility
- Difficulty making long trips...transfers

Provider Perspective – *Transit Agencies*

- Services can be very expensive to provide
- Can be unclear who has responsibility for some trips
- Significant growth in demand is expected

Major Challenges Facing Special Needs Transportation

Several challenges need to be dealt with in developing special needs transportation including:

- Need for coordinated services
- Reduce complexity of eligibility
- People not aware of available services
- Available services don't meet current demand
- Gaps in services - populations dispersed and expensive to serve
- Costs growing faster than available funding

Why Coordinate Special Needs Transportation?

- Independence – more people able to access services they need
- Efficiencies – more trips provided at lower cost to providers
- Economy – increase access to jobs/ shopping and expand workforce
- Funding – better chance of getting federal state funding assistance

Regional Coordinated Human Services and Public Transit Transportation Plan

PSRC's Coordinated Plan is built on the work done by Sound Transit in their Regional Coordinated Transportation plan. PSRC is assisting in the development of a county-wide Prioritized Project List to support those agencies and non-profits applying to both PSRC and the state in January for State and Federal grants. Transit project proposals can be submitted at this time and agencies are encouraged to apply. King County Partners for Coordinated Transportation, an organization being built on the work of the "Key Partners in Transportation" group is just starting to come together. They will be very involved in the development of plans and Prioritized Project lists in the future. PSRC will finalize its *Regional Coordinated Human Services and Public Transit Transportation Plan* which will include the Prioritized Project list this fall. A public meeting to gather citizen input will take place on August 22, 2006, 6:00 pm at Sound Transit.

Desired Outcomes of Regional Coordination include:

- Shift some para-transit riders to fixed route
- Group more trips together
- Simplify how riders plan, book and pay for services
- Coordinate trip reservations, scheduling and dispatching passenger trips
- Provide more mobility with same dollars
- Invest savings in unmet needs

Potential Long-Range Regional Opportunities

- Establish regional policy direction in *Destination 2030*
- Broaden regional coordination to include Kitsap County
- Provide better understanding of long-term demographic changes
- Establish more seamless integration for inter-county trips
- Connect web services (Find-A-Ride) with 511 (travel Info) and 211 (human services)
- Improve inter-state coordination by developing a Washington /Oregon Trip Planner

Bob Drewel indicated the Advisory Council can play an important role in their planning efforts by learning more about their *Regional Coordinated Human Services and Public Transit Transportation Plan* and sharing transportation information with the people served by the aging network.

BUSINESS MEETING

Minutes

Action Taken: It was moved/seconded and passed that the July 14, 2006 minutes be approved as written.

COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS

Seattle City Council

Councilmember Tom Rasmussen provided the following report:

1) **Four Freedom's Fire** - Councilmember Rasmussen reported that individuals displaced by the fire at the assisted living facility have been assisted by the Red Cross. The City Council is looking into whether sprinklers are required at the facility.

2) **2007-2008 Budget** – The Mayor will propose his budget for next year by the end of September and the Council will then consider the proposal, adopting it by the end of November. Councilmember Rasmussen indicated he is interested in increasing funding in some areas including:

- Senior Centers – The financial needs of senior centers has been reviewed by the Councilmember's office and a report will be out by the end of August.
- Elder Abuse – Councilmember Rasmussen is working with the Police Department on this issue and would like to provide additional funds for these activities.
- Health Community Opportunities Fund – Councilmember Rasmussen would like to have \$250,000 for health programs for refugees that would provide simple ways to help such as providing education or direct care.

3) **Emergency Assistance Fund** – A week ago, this temporary program to assist those at 125% of the poverty level pay their water bill, became a permanent program. As a temporary program, it assisted 323 people.

Microphone Protocol

Larry Verhei provided an excellent summary of the appropriate use of microphones in public meetings. Practical tips he provided included:

- Hold the microphone three inches from your lips.
- The Advisory Council's hand-held microphones are directional and pick up sounds only when you speak directly into it not at the side.

Sponsors' Meeting

John Barnett presented information to the Sponsors on the development of the next Area Plan and the Advisory Council's recommendations for funding priorities. The Sponsors accepted the recommended categories for funding but not the order of priority. The Sponsor's indicated that in the event a program area loses some funding they want the flexibility to be able to make up for the loss.

Planning & Allocations Committee

Joanne Brekke reported planning has begun for the 2008-2011 Area Plan. The new plan will respond to the changing needs in the county and include up-to-date statistics.

State Council on Aging

Joanne Brekke reported the State Council on Aging sent a letter to the Governor requesting an increase in staff support to a .5 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) employee to deal with the large number of issues the Council is involved in. Their focus includes such areas as:

- Multi-purpose Senior Centers
- Mental Health
- Culturally appropriate Adult Family Homes and Adult Boarding Homes
- Geriatric Education
- Individuals eligible for both Medicaid & Medicare (“Dual Eligibles”)
- Medicare Part D coverage gap (“Doughnut hole”)
- Recruiting Long Term Care Ombudsman

Outreach & Advocacy Committee / Health Care Task Force

1) Doug Ricker reported on an opportunity to send comments on the Medicaid Citizenship Documentation requirements to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Comments will be accepted until 2:00 pm today.

Action Taken: It was moved / seconded and passed to send a letter to CMS using key points from a sample letter of the National Association of Social Workers, Washington Chapter.

2) Michael Miller reported that Sound Transit’s draft regional planning document is out and available for public comment until August 22, 2006.

3) Peter Greenfield provided an update on the Estate Recovery and Public Guardianship issues. A draft Public Guardianship bill has been developed.

4) The Legislative Forum will take place on Wednesday, August 23rd at the Seattle Center. To register, go to the link at the Advisory Council’s website at www.adsadvisorycouncil.org. So far 125 people have registered for the event. Volunteers are still needed.

Communications Committee

There was no report.

Universal Design (UD)

Art Mussman provided a summary of the last Universal Design Coalition meeting that took place on July 21st. Key elements of his report included:

- Planning is underway for an assisted living facility for individuals with Parkinson’s Disease.
- Dr. Hartjie reported that she continues to work on a set of criteria for a Leed-like program for Universal Design. Also, Seattle Pacific University (SPU) is looking for funding for a UD Center to be housed at SPU.

NEW BUSINESS

Director's Report

Pamela Piering reported on a number of items.

- 1) n4a Conference – Pam recently returned from the annual n4a conference which was held in Chicago this year. She indicated the workshop sessions were excellent.
- 2) Health Promotion Grants – The Administration on Aging has funding for health promotion activities available. The Washington State Department of Health will be applying for a grant. Hopefully funding will be available for local programs.
- 3) Medicaid Chronic Disease Grant – Rosemary Cunningham is working on a grant application for Medicaid funds. The application will be submitted in collaboration with Harborview Medical Center, Evergreen Health Care and local Community Health Clinics.
- 4) Special Briefing on Long Term Care – The Long Term Care Task Force will hold a special briefing on September 8th at the Hilton Seattle Airport & Conference Center from 10:00-1:00 pm. The Executive Committee is considering whether to make this event the program portion of the regular September meeting.
- 5) Statewide Gathering of Advisory Council and State Council on Aging Members – This annual meeting will be held on October 26th and the Advisory Council will host the event.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING

Friday, November 3, 2006

Noon – 2:00 p.m.

6070 Conference Room – Director's Board Room

Seattle Municipal Tower

700 – 5th Avenue

Seattle, WA 98124

www.adsadvisorycouncil.org

Midge Levy, Secretary _____